

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the Abstract of the Invention at page 22, lines 5-10, and replace as follows:

Disclosed is a method for computing payment discounts awarded to winning agents in an exchange, ~~said~~ the method comprising ~~computing~~ including a Vickrey discount to each ~~said~~ of the winning agent as the difference between available surplus with all agents present minus available surplus without ~~said~~ the winning agent, and computing said payment discounts by adjusting ~~said~~ the Vickrey discounts so as to constrain ~~said~~ the exchange to budget-balance.